

Remarks

Claims 5-8, 10, 11, 15, and 20 have been cancelled. By this Amendment, claims 1-4, 9, 12-14, and 16-19 are pending in the application.

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and following comments is courteously solicited.

The subject matter of original claims 11, 16, and 18 was indicated to be allowable by the Examiner at page 11, numbered paragraph 7, of the outstanding Office action.

The subject matter of original dependent claim 11 including any intervening claims has been incorporated into independent claim 1. Accordingly, it is submitted that independent claim 1, as amended, patentably defines over the art of record and is allowable. Likewise, claims 2-4, 9, and 12 and 14, as presently amended, all ultimately depend from claim 1 and are, therefore, also allowable.

Claim 16 has been rewritten in independent form to incorporate the subject matter of original claim 18, including any intervening claims. Since the subject matter of original claim 18 was deemed to be allowable by the Examiner, it is submitted that independent claim 16, as presently amended, patentably defines over the art of record and is allowable. Likewise, claims 13, 17 and 18, as presently amended, all depend from claim 16 and are, therefore, also allowable.

Finally, independent claim 19 has been amended to recite a housing and a variable resistor electrically coupled to the IR light source and received within the housing, the variable resistor having a rotatable shaft for adjusting the resistance of the variable resistor extending at least partially

through an aperture in the housing, which subject matter is common to all three of original claim 11, 16, and 18 found by the Examiner to be allowable. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 19, as amended, is also allowable over the prior art of record.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated. It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

It is believed that no fee for extension of time or excess claims is required. However, in the event any fees are required in connection with this paper, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 502288.

Respectfully submitted,

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MIDDLETON, P.A.

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